

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-03 ERDA-05 ACDA-05 CIAE-00 INR-07

IO-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 NRC-05 DODE-00 FEA-01

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DRAFTED BY DRAFTED:EA/J:DFSMITH:BCL

APPROVED BY OES - MYRON B. KRATZER

ERDA - MR. GARRETT (SUB)

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R 241759Z DEC 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 302672

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:TECH, JA

SUBJECT: US-JAPAN NUCLEAR COOPERATION: UEA

REF: STATE 291713

1. JAPANESE DCM NISHIDA, ACCOMPANIED BY COUNSELOR DONOWAKI AND SCIENTIFIC ATTACHE, CALLED ON ACTING ASST. SECRETARY KRATZER DECEMBER 23 TO CONVEY GOJ REPLY TO PROPOSAL REFTEL. HELFRICH (ERDA) AND SMITH (EA/J) SAT IN. NISHIDA SAID THAT GOJ WAS READY AT USG CONVENIENCE TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON ENRICHED URANIUM SERVICES CONTRACTS. HOWEVER, JAPANESE WISHED TALKS TO BE HELD AT "OFFICIAL" RATHER THAN "VERY SENIOR" LEVEL AND TO FOCUS ON QUESTION OF DEMAND AND SUPPLY OF ENRICHED URANIUM SERVICES. WITH REGARD TO UEA GOJ WAS NOT YET IN POSITION TO PRESENT ITS VIEWS BECAUSE (A) WITH NUCLEAR FUEL ASSURANCE ACT (NFAA) STILL PENDING IN CONGRESS SHAPE OF PROJECT WAS NOT YET CLEAR AND (B) JAPANESE UTILITIES, WHICH WOULD BE PARTIES INVOLVED, HAD NOT YET MADE DECISION ON WHETHER TO JOIN PRO-
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JECT.

2. KRATZER RESPONDED THAT USG PREPARED AT ANY TIME TO DIS-

CUSS QUESTION OF SUPPLY AND DEMAND FOR ENRICHMENT SERVICES. HOWEVER, DEPUTY SECRETARY'S PROPOSAL WAS INTENDED TO GO BEYOND THAT LBVEL OF GENERALITY IN ORDER TO CONVEY TO GOJ

USG VIEWS ON GOVERNMENT ROLE IN URANIUM ENRICHMENT PROJECT. NOTING THAT USG ROLE IN PROJECT HAD BECOME MUCH MORE IMPORTANT THAN HAD ORIGINALLY BEEN ENVISAGED, WE BELIEVE IT IMPORTANT THAT GOJ LEARN DETAILS ABOUT USG INVOLVEMENT DIRECTLY RATHER THAN THROUGH PRIVATE PARTIES. WITH REFERENCE TO PENDING STATUS OF NFAA IN CONGRESS, KRATZER

POINTED OUT THAT DISCUSSIONS OF BOTH GOVERNMENTS COULD HAVE EFFECT ON OUTCOME OF LEGISLATION AND THAT IT WAS CUSTOMARY FOR TWO GOVERNMENTS TO EXPLORE NATURE OF JOINT UNDERTAKING BEFORE FINAL PARLIAMENTARY ENACTMENT.

3. OBSERVING THAT HE WOULD HAVE SOME RESERVATIONS ABOUT DISCUSSIONS WHICH WERE PURELY TECHNICAL AND GENERAL IN NATURE, KRATZER ASKED IF GOJ WISHED TO EXCLUDE DISCUSSION OF SPECIFIC URANIUM ENRICHMENT VENTURES IN US. AFTER CONSULTATION WITH HIS COLLEAGUES NISHIDA DENIED THAT GOJ WISHED TO EXCLUDE ANY TOPIC. KRATZER THEN SAID THAT MAIN DIFFERENCE BETWEEN DEPUTY SECRETARY'S PROPOSAL AND JAPANESE REPLY SEEMED TO BE LEVEL OF TEAMS. NISHIDA CONFIRMED THIS INTERPRETATION. KRATZER STATED HE WOULD CONSULT WITH ERDA ABOUT RESPONSE TO JAPANESE REPLY. HOWEVER, BASIC US OBJECTIVE WAS TO INITIATE GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT DIALOGUE. ISSUES SUCH AS SENIORITY OF TEAM MEMBERS AND VENUE WERE ESSENTIALLY QUESTIONS OF DETAIL. NATURE OF TALKS WAS TO BE INFORMATIONAL AND EXPLORATORY. HE SAID USG ALSO DID NOT WISH TO LEAVE IMPRESSION THAT WE DID NOT ATTACH HIGH IMPORTANCE TO THE ROLE OF THE JAPANESE PRIVATE SECTOR IN THIS DIALOGUE OR THAT WE INTENDED TO EXCLUDE THEM.

4. KRATZER ASKED WHAT LEVEL OF TEAM LEADERSHIP GOJ WOULD PREFER. NISHIDA THOUGHT ASST. SECRETARY OR DEPUTY ASST. SECRETARY LEVEL WOULD BE APPROPRIATE. HE ASKED ABOUT CONFIDENTIAL
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TIMING, IN EVENT THAT USG WOULD WISH TO PROCEED. KRATZER STATED THAT WE HAD BEEN THINKING IN TERMS OF JANUARY, AND PERHAPS MAY WISH TO PROCEED VERY QUICKLY.

5. IN CLOSING NISHIDA SAID THAT GOJ DID NOT WISH TO HAVE FORMAL DISCUSSION OF REGIONAL REPROCESSING QUESTIONS AT THIS TIME, AS GOVERNMENT AGENCIES HAD NOT YET REACHED A CONSENSUS. HE DID NOT RULE OUT INFORMAL CHATS ON REPROCESSING, BUT GOJ DID NOT WISH IT TO APPEAR ON AGENDA OF TALKS. KISSINGER

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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